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**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A contactless sheet resistance measurement apparatus for measuring sheet resistance comprising:

~~means a light source~~ for illuminating the area of a semiconductor structure with an intensity modulated light,

~~means for detecting SPV signals inside and outside said illumination area~~ optically coupled to said illuminating means a transparent conducting electrode optically coupled with the light source and used for detecting photovoltage signals inside the illuminated area,

a first non transparent conducting electrode used for detecting photovoltage signals outside of the illumination area, and

~~means for measurement of said SPV signals inside and outside the illumination area connected to said means for detecting SPV signals~~ a second non transparent conducting electrode connected to a ground and installed between the transparent and first non transparent electrodes.

2. (Withdrawn) A contactless sheet resistance measurement apparatus for measuring the sheet resistance of claim 1, wherein said illumination means comprises a light emitting diode with a driver forming the sinusoidal illumination and an optical fiber directing the light onto the wafer surface.

3. (Withdrawn) A contactless sheet resistance measurement apparatus for measuring the sheet resistance of claim 1, wherein said means for detecting of SPV signals comprises a transparent conducting electrode optically coupled with a light source

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used for detecting SPV signal inside the illumination area and a non transparent electrode used for detecting SPV signal outside the illumination area.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A contactless sheet resistance measurement~~ The apparatus ~~for measuring the sheet resistance~~ of claim 1, wherein the transparent conducting electrode is a glass or quartz disk with an ITO coating and the first non transparent electrode is a metal ring coaxially installed to said the glass or quartz disk.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~A contactless sheet resistance measurement~~ The apparatus ~~for measuring the sheet resistance~~ of claim 1, wherein said the transparent and conducting electrode is a glass or quartz disk with an ITO coating and the first non transparent electrode is a part of the metal ring coaxially installed to said the glass or quartz disk.
20. (New) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the second non transparent electrode connected to the ground is a metal ring coaxially installed between the glass or quartz disk with an ITO coating and the first non transparent electrode.
21. (New) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the second non transparent electrode connected to the ground is a part of the metal ring coaxially installed between the glass or quartz disk with an ITO coating and the first non transparent electrode.
22. (New) The apparatus of claims 4, 5, 20, or 21 wherein the illumination means comprises a light emitting diode and an optical fiber directing light onto the wafer surface.
23. (New) The apparatus of claims 4, 5, 20, or 21, wherein the illumination means comprises a laser and an optical fiber directing light onto the wafer surface.